

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway, -SAB.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 23 Broadway, opposite
McGraw-Hill Hotel, -STANDARD SINGING, DANCING, &c.-
ITALIAN AIRS BY NATIVE ARTISTS.TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 23 Broadway, -SING-
ING, DANCING, BURLING, &c.-THE FENIAN'S DREAM; OR,
ISLAND FOLK AT LAST.TEMPLE OF MUSIC, corner of Grand and Crosby
streets, -THOMAS & O'BRIEN'S MONUMENT OF ALL NATIONS-
-REPRESENTATION ON THE DOWNFALL OF RUSSIA.GEORGE CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS, -The Old School
of Music, 112 Broadway, -MUSICAL COMEDY, &c.-
Avenue Opera House, Nos. 2 and 4 West Twenty-fourth
street, -BURLING, &c.-BRYANT'S MINSTRELS, -The Old School
of Music, 112 Broadway, -MUSICAL COMEDY, &c.-
Avenue Opera House, Nos. 2 and 4 West Twenty-fourth
street, -BURLING, &c.-NEW NATIONAL CIRCUS, 27 and 29 Broadway, -EQUESTRIAN,
GYMNASTIC AND ACROBATIC FEATS, &c.-MILITARY
MANEUVERS, &c.-HOPE CHAPPEL, 72 Broadway, -PROFESSOR WISEMAN'S
EXHIBITION OF MYSTERY AND VIOLENCE.HOOKE'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn, -THEOPHILUS
MINSTRELS, -BURLING, &c.-NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway, -
OPEN FROM 10 A. M. TO 10 P. M.STUDIO BUILDING, Tenth street, -EXHIBITION OF
FURNITURE, ENGLISH AND FLEMISH PICTURES.

New York, Friday, December 8, 1865.

NEWSPAPER CIRCULATION.

Receipts of Sales of the New York Daily

Newspapers.

OFFICIAL.

Year Ending

May 1, 1865.

Name of Paper

Herald, \$1,095,000

Times, 368,150

Tribune, 252,000

Evening Post, 169,427

World, 100,000

Sun, 151,079

Express, 90,548

New York Herald, \$1,095,000

Times, Tribune, World and Sun combined, \$71,429

THE NEWS.

The National Thanksgiving was well observed yesterday in all portions of the country from which we have reports, and was no doubt generally recognized in every State of the Union. In the metropolis and our suburban districts the observance was universal. The public offices, courts, banking houses, stores, business places of every kind and schools were closed, and people of all classes and conditions in life were unanimous in making the occasion a holiday. Notwithstanding the fact that the weather was very disagreeable, there being alternate falls of snow and rain throughout the greater part of the day, the services in the churches, the majority of which were open, were fairly attended. We give on another page sketches of the sermons and proceedings at several of the places of worship, as well as of the public thanksgiving festivals at some of the city institutions. The snow and rain, however, destroyed many programmes for outdoor sport which had been planned; but they served to give additional zest to the indoor enjoyments and the happy family reunions at the home fireside and around the home board.

The California Assembly and the Oregon Senate both ratified the anti-slavery amendment to the national constitution on Wednesday last.

From Washington we have the report that at the Cabinet meeting held on Wednesday it was decided that Mr. Mallory, who during the existence of the Jeff. Davis confederacy was Secretary of that myth known as the rebel Navy Department, shall be arraigned for trial before a civil tribunal within the next thirty days.

The truth with regard to the rebel bondholders in England is gradually leaking out. It will be remembered that when the list was first sent across the water it was indignantly returned, branded as a New York Herald fiction, and that Mr. Delane, of the London Times, Mr. Gladstone and nearly every other prominent man whose name was mentioned in the list, repudiated with much show of virtuous indignation all connection with the same. Our Paris correspondent now assures us that legal documents will shortly be published proving that the list was in the main correct. There were two classes of shareholders, it seems—those who drew their interest in the ordinary way, and those who were content to wait the establishment of the Southern confederacy before making any claim upon the fund. In this latter class were all the leading rebel sympathizers in Europe who so eagerly denied that they ever "received" or "applied for" any rebel stock. The Herald's theory as to the perversion on which these denials were based appears to have been the correct one.

The cause of the recent raising of the siege of Matamoros by the Mexican republicans under General Escobedo, heretofore frequently noticed in our columns, is explained by our Brownsville correspondent to have been solely a lack of ammunition. A shipment purchased in one of our Northern cities was delayed in its arrival, and General Escobedo was therefore compelled to suspend his offensive operations and withdraw a short distance from the town, where, at the date of latest accounts, he still remained ready to resume the siege as soon as this very necessary material was received. His troops are said to be well provided in all other respects, and in good spirits, and the imperial reports that they are deserting are pronounced utterly groundless. To this lack of ammunition on the part of the republicans, it seems, the imperialists were indebted for their success in recently running up the Rio Grande to Matamoros the gunboat containing a number of French marines, of which exploit we have already had several accounts. It is said that General Weitzel's investigation has shown that the imperial charges that the gunboat Antonia was fired upon from the Texas shore of the river were unfounded. On the occasion of the withdrawal of the imperialists from Matamoros, which was soon after occupied by the republicans, they marched towards San Luis Potosi, one of the four main points at which we were some time ago informed Maximilian's forces are to be principally concentrated. President Juarez was to leave El Paso on the 13th of last month, to re-establish his capital at Chihuahua. A ball in his honor was given on the 11th ult. by the United States officers at Fort Bliss, Texas. Official news from the interior of Mexico received in Washington is most satisfactory for the republicans, showing that they are gaining ground there.

General Logan, recently appointed by President Johnson Minister to the Mexican republic, has arrived in Washington, but his decision in reference to the acceptance of the position has not yet been made public.

The meeting advertised to be held at the Cooper Institute to-morrow evening, for the purpose of giving public expression to the sentiments of our citizens in regard to the Monroe Doctrine and the intervention of Europe in Mexico, Chile and Peru, has been postponed until next week. Due notice was given of the date of meeting.

On Wednesday evening, Senator B. Vicuña Mackenna, the special envoy from the republic of Chile to the United States, gave a sumptuous banquet at Belmont's to a number of distinguished South American gentlemen and members of the New York press, at which eloquent speeches were made by Senator Mackenna, the Venezuelan Minister, Mr. George Squire and others. The Monroe Doctrine was strongly advocated, and European interference on the American continent received merited denunciation.

General Grant arrived at Augusta, Georgia, on Wednesday, and was to leave there for Atlanta yesterday.

The French inhabitants of Canada are adding to the disgust which the Fenian excitement has recently inflicted on the Canadian government. The French organs and the members of the French association known as the Sons of Liberty have become very bold in their denunciations of British domination and British confederations schemes. The French Canadians would rather see the province annexed to the United States than see it become a colonial union, whereby their influence and their nationality would be completely overwhelmed and neutralized. Already the French newspapers in Montreal have received a semi-official warning in reference to the alleged impudence of their course. Meantime the members of the government, backed by

the British ministry, are pushing their confederation programme, but so far apparently with no positive assurance of success.

The investigation which the higher branch of the Fenian government is engaged in making into the management of matters in New York has already resulted in a report announcing the detection of an effort to issue sixty-eight thousand dollars worth of bonds with the signature of a person as agent of the Irish republic who had been rejected by the Senate. The Senate report that the President, at Union square, fails to nominate an agent for their confirmation, as the constitution requires, and they have notified him, and the general members and public at large, that the organization which they represent will refuse to be responsible for such, and that such irregular proceedings will be treated as a fraud on the body. The Senators and others manifested joy at the reported escape of Stephens from the British in Dublin. Thanksgiving Day was observed yesterday, but the work will go on to-day.

The Fenian Press in this city, Mr. John O'Mahony, publishes a card addressed to the Brotherhood, in which he warns them against becoming disquieted by the alleged disclosures of the certain investigations, which he says are being prosecuted without legal authority.

Another new line of steamers has been established to run between this city and New Orleans, under the name of the Atlantic and Mississippi Steamship Line, which will connect at New Orleans with a fleet of river steamers running to all points on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. The pioneer vessel of the line, the Missouri, Captain Sherman, will sail to-morrow (Saturday), at three P. M., from pier No. 13 North river, foot of Cedar street, and every Saturday thereafter a steamer of the line will sail from the same place.

Surrogate Tucker has admitted to probate the contested will of William Garry, deceased, the opposition being withdrawn. The trial of John Kane's will was then taken up. The decedent left all his property to his relatives, and the will was contested by the widow. It was admitted to probate. The trial regarding the estate of Bridget Davis, otherwise Adelia Rose, was then had, the question being as to the marriage of deceased with one Peter Ross. The Surrogate decided the marriage not proven, and the property falls to the woman's children by a former marriage. The Hepper and Westervelt will cases were set down for next Monday.

Patrick McCruden, who was shot on Wednesday in the barroom on the northwest corner of Broome and Marion streets, as alleged, by the bartender, Patrick Dwyer, died in the New York Hospital yesterday morning.

Twenty thousand eight hundred and seventy immigrants were landed at this port during the month of November this year, of whom thirteen thousand one hundred and seventy-nine were Germans. From January 1 to November 30 of this year one hundred and eighty-eight thousand two hundred and four immigrants altogether arrived here, seventy-two thousand nine hundred and ninety-six of them being Germans.

A construction train on the Oswego and Rome Railroad, four miles from the former place, was thrown from the track yesterday morning by running over two cows. One man was instantly killed and several were injured.

A company has been organized in San Francisco, with a capital of thirty millions of dollars, to construct a railroad of seven hundred and twenty miles in length from that city to the California State line, there to connect with the contemplated route to the Mississippi river.

Another slight earthquake shock was felt in San Francisco on Wednesday night; but it did no damage.

Two large sheds at Lock Fourteen, Salem Township, Anguila county, Ohio, were set on fire recently by incendiaries, and a large lot of hoop poles and twenty-two hundred thousand staves which were in the sheds were destroyed. A few days later two more sheds, containing a large amount of heading, were set on fire, and the flames communicating to the mill, barn and other outbuildings, they were all burned to the ground. Besides the other property destroyed, a valuable horse, estimated to be worth six hundred dollars, was burned up, with fifteen sets of harness. The loss is estimated at about seventy-five thousand dollars, and the insurance are about forty thousand dollars.

A fire at Metropolis, Illinois, on the 3d inst. destroyed the sawmill owned by Kimball & Beupre. The loss was twenty-five thousand dollars.

A minority of four of the corner's jury in the case of the recent pillaging disaster on the Central Railroad of New Jersey, differing from the majority, have made a presentment concerning some of the road employees, recommending that farmers be placed at all curves and that the car couplings be strengthened.

The San Francisco *Alta* of November 13 gives the particulars of a most daring robbery committed in that city between three and four o'clock that morning. While the night clerk was in attendance in the office of the What Cheer House the robbers entered, knocked him down, rifled his pockets of the safe keys, opened the safe, which contained a large amount of money and valuables, and carried off, as was supposed, about ten thousand dollars. No arrests had been made, although the whole force of San Francisco detectives were at work.

The twenty-fifth army corps, which during the siege of Richmond numbered between thirty and forty thousand men, exclusively colored troops, has been consolidated into a division, in consequence of the extensive discharges of negro soldiers in Texas, where the corps has been for some time located.

Three Days of Congress—Signs of a Wholesome Reaction.

After three days of business the two houses of Congress stand adjourned over to Monday next. This proceeding is customary, in order to allow the Speaker a fair chance for a careful selection of the standing committees of the House. We presume, however, that they will be essentially the same as they were last year, as they have been already announced in the Senate. Meantime we are gratified to observe that within the short interval of three days there has been a remarkable abatement of the radical fever which marked the first day's proceedings in both houses—an abatement which we think may be attributed to the wholesome influence of the President's Message.

On Monday, for example, Mr. Thaddeus Stevens had it all his own way, and whipped through his joint resolution for a joint committee on the condition of the rebellious States in short order. On the same day Messrs. Sumner, Wade and Wilson took possession of the Senate, and threw in work enough of a radical stamp for six months' discussion. On Tuesday the Message was read to both houses—a frank, manly, straightforward statesmanlike exposition of the condition of the country, and especially of the Southern States, and of his views and measures of reconstruction; and on Wednesday we perceive that it has not failed of a good impression on the House and in the Senate.

Mr. Farnsworth, of Illinois, a radical of the Northwestern school, submitted to the House on Wednesday a resolution declaring it as the sense of that body that good faith demands that all colored soldiers who have been in the service of the Union shall enjoy all the rights of citizenship. Of course "all the rights of citizenship" include the right of suffrage. But it appears that the House, on the spur of the occasion, was not prepared to adopt this resolution, which, though limited to colored soldiers, involved a direct issue with President Johnson on the question whether this thing of the right of suffrage is a matter which belongs to Congress or to the several States. Upon this question, as the constitution and the usages of the past and the present time are all on the side of the President, a break with him, it was evidently thought, was an affair entitled to a little cool consideration. And so, a debate arising on the resolution, Mr. Farnsworth was judiciously persuaded to let it go over to some other day, without attempting a two-thirds test for the suspension of the rules. It appears that even the terrible Thaddeus Stevens himself had become considerably softened since Monday, and was altogether in a more amiable frame of mind on Wednesday.

In the Senate on the same day Mr. Sumner

unmasked another light battery and opened fire from it against the administration in a resolution referring to the oath of loyalty required of one class of men entering upon the duties of any public office, and remarking that "whereas it is reported that, notwithstanding the acts of Congress, certain persons have been allowed to enter upon the duties of office (Treasury Department) and to receive the salary and emoluments thereof without taking the prescribed oath, and certain persons have been appointed to offices not authorized by any previously existing law, therefore resolved, that the Secretary of the Treasury be requested, so far as the records of his department allow," &c., to furnish the needed information on the subject. This resolution, over the shoulders of the Secretary of the Treasury, was evidently aimed at the President, and at his proceedings in reference to certain provisional officials of his in the Southern States. Under the rule it lies over a day, and when called up again we may, perhaps, have an interesting debate upon it.

But the little passage at arms which followed between Mr. Sumner and Mr. Doolittle touched the kernel of the main question. Mr. Doolittle moved to refer that portion of the Message which treats of the existing relations of the late rebel States to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Sumner remarked that there was now on the Secretary's table a resolution (that of Mr. Stevens from the House) providing for the appointment of a joint committee to whom this subject should be referred. It would be better, he thought, to await the passage of this resolution and then let the subject (President's Message in relation to the South) go to that special committee. Mr. Doolittle thought that the joint resolution itself ought to go to the Judiciary Committee, and just here the House proposition for an adjournment over to Monday came in and cut off any further proceedings. Here we see against Sumner a leading republican Senator from the West boldly taking his position on the side of the President. The result will probably be such a modification of the Stevens resolution as to leave each house, as the constitution ordains, the judge of the qualifications of its members, instead of tying up and handing over both houses and the President to the care of a joint committee.

In any event, the policy of Southern restoration which President Johnson has adopted having been approved by all parties throughout the country, he has no other course to pursue. Let him adhere to it, do all he can to secure from the States concerned the fulfillment of all his conditions, and, having fulfilled them, let him submit the rights of said States to a restoration to Congress. They may be rejected, but then the issue brought before the people in the elections for the next Congress will be a decisive victory for the administration. The President holds the impregnable ground that the excluded Southern States are not out of the Union, and never have been; that they only need a reorganization under the constitution and existing laws of the Union to be entitled to all the rights in the general government which belong to the other loyal States. He has only to adhere to this ground to secure the establishment of his policy in this Congress or the next. We believe, however, from the cooling down of the radicals on the day after the reception of the Message, that a wholesome reaction has already commenced which will make the President's policy the programme of the present Congress. When such old radical campaigners as Thaddeus Stevens begin to tack ship it is because they see breakers ahead.

MISTERS O'GRIELEY AND THE CHARTER ELECTION.—The philosopher of the *Tribune* has always felt proud of the support of the plain, honest country people. He puts in his columns such matter as he supposes may suit them, by the way of assisting their digestion of his political nostrums. He tries to impose upon these honest people by an affectation of straightforward honesty and incorruptibility in himself. Affecting the style of the ancient philosopher, Socrates, he wears old clothes, carries a smooth face, eats bran bread, and says in his general manner, "behold an honest man." He has played this game pretty successfully; but he has evidently presumed too far upon the credulity of his country readers.

The developments of the charter election in this city must undeceive these people. What will they think of his alliance with Fernando Wood to defeat the regular candidate of his party? Such an incongruous political connection is remarkable—is that of Beauty and the Beast, and can only be explained as having a bearing upon the piers and wharves job, or some other similar job. Greeley and the Woods united! What a union! All the humbug nigger philanthropy of the *Tribune* cannot destroy the effect of such corrupt political miscegenation. The country people can no longer believe in the political honesty of the *Tribune* philosopher. Poor Greeley! we suspect he will soon discover a rapid falling off in his subscription list.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—We give to-day an abstract of the report of the Secretary of the Interior, which gives a gratifying exposition of the internal affairs of the country. It appears that upwards of five and a quarter millions of acres of land were disposed of during the last year and one quarter of the previous year. The aggregate quantity of surveyed public lands undisposed of September 30, 1865, was one hundred and thirty-two million two hundred and eighty-five thousand and thirty-five acres. The Indian depredations and the policy of their extermination are commented upon, the Secretary taking ground against the latter as inhuman and unchristian. We are gratified to learn that the publication of the census of 1860 is nearly completed. The progress of the Union Pacific Railroad is referred to in the most encouraging terms, while the Northern Pacific road—from Lake Superior to Puget Sound—is mentioned as having suspended operations, if they were ever commenced, after the passage of the act donating enormous grants of land in aid of the project.

THE RADICALS AS PRO-SLAVERY MEN.—The radicals in Congress are practically the last upholders and friends of the institution of slavery. They deny the political existence of the States whose votes would secure the ratification of the constitutional amendment, and so permit their party rancor to stand in the way of the final abolition of the institution that they have pretended to hate, and whose destruction they have held up as the prime object of all their political efforts.

Our Relations With England and France.

Our Washington correspondent has telegraphed us that the portion of the President's Message referring to our relations with England was received in Congress with emphatic and unanimous applause. That portion of the Message simply recites the hostile acts committed against us by Great Britain during the recent war, and concludes with the significant remark that, "for the future, friendship between the two countries must rest on the basis of mutual justice." From this remark we infer—and England may as well accept the same construction—that there is to be no friendship between the two countries for the future until full justice is done us for the injuries inflicted during the recent rebellion. If we do not choose to go to war at present, that is no reason why we should either forget or forgive the many wrongs which we have suffered, and which the President clearly and succinctly recites. The formal accordance of belligerent rights to the insurgent States; the supplies of materials of war sent to the rebels from British manufacturers; the ravages of British pirates sailing under the flag of a nation that did not exist—these outrages upon the United States demand compensation and apology at the hands of the British government; and, since even arbitration has been refused, they fully justify us in declaring war against Great Britain, although we shall consult our own convenience as to the time when war is to be declared. Under these circumstances the President's stern and menacing tone towards England is exceedingly appropriate, and it is unanimously endorsed, approved and re-echoed by the country.

A quotation from the New York correspondence of the London *Spectator*, published in these columns on Wednesday, shows that our interpretation of the President's remark in regard to our relations with England is quite correct. This correspondence gives the details of a conversation with Secretary Seward, in which Mr. Seward said that he had told Sir Frederick Bruce, the British Minister, that "the way towards anything more than the present relations of mere formal amity between the two peoples and governments must be led by the British people and the British government. If the British were content with our present attitude towards each other, we were; but if any change were made in it for the better it must be of British making." Mr. Seward added that "we were the aggrieved party," and that "it was not for us to seek a reconciliation." He concluded this verbal despatch to Sir Frederick Bruce by stating that "nothing could be expected from us but to stand upon our rights, as well as upon our essential rights, and insist upon both in the minutest particular," and that "this was as far as the people of this country would allow any administration to go in that direction"—meaning in the direction of conciliation. Mr. Seward is quite right in this statement. Indeed, he might have explained that it is with the greatest difficulty that the American people are induced to be satisfied with even a "formal amity" towards a government which has insulted us so grossly, injured us so wantonly, and refused reparation so impudently and unjustly. Beyond all question, a war with England would be most popular, and had not President Johnson wisely resolved to settle up all our internal difficulties before dealing with our foreign relations, and had not the people acquiesced in his decision because of their confidence in his patriotism and ability, the recent Message would certainly have contained a declaration of war. But we know that we shall lose nothing by waiting. Neither the debt that England owes us nor our power to collect it will be lessened by time. And Canada will not move out of our reach in the meanwhile.

The tone of that portion of the President's Message which refers to France is in marked contrast with its tone towards England. President Johnson does not forget, and the American people cannot forget, that while England has always been our bitterest enemy, France is our old and trusty friend. If to England the President speaks sternly, to France he addresses rather a remonstrance than a threat. Nevertheless, it is impossible for him to overlook the fact that the attempt to establish a foreign monarchy upon the tomb of the Mexican republic is an act of indirect hostility towards the United States, and he therefore reasserts the Monroe Doctrine in terms which are perfectly plain without being in the least degree menacing. He evidently hopes and expects that France will withdraw from Mexico quietly and without a war, and he says nothing which in any way render more difficult the delicate problem of retiring gracefully from an untenable position which the Emperor Napoleon is called upon to solve. The President is clearly determined to place upon France the onus of the quarrel if a war shall become necessary to vindicate the Monroe Doctrine. He speaks of a European Power "challenging the American people to the defence of republicanism against foreign interference," and, although he cannot say that we will refuse such a challenge, he does say that we would regard it as a great calamity, and he hopes that it will never be offered. "We rely," he adds, "upon the wisdom and justice of European Powers to respect the system of non-interference which has so long been sanctioned by time, and which, by its good results, has approved itself to both continents." The Emperor Napoleon cannot fail to admire and to respect the powerful moderation of these sentiments and the calm and kindly manner in which they are expressed. We do not doubt that the hopes of President Johnson will be realized, and that France will relinquish a scheme which is not popular among her own people, and which offends her oldest and truest friends. Let her do this, and the friendship between the two countries will be almost fraternal, and the bonds of union formed by the traditions of the past will be strengthened by the mutual justice and gentility of our future relations. Towards England, however, we can entertain only a "formal amity" until the Alabama debt is paid and guarantees given for the future.

THE FENIAN BONDS.—Where are the bonds of the Irish republic, those miraculous specimens of artistic conception and exquisite execution? The first week of the past month was positively set down for their issue, but up to this time there has not been the least sign of them. Perhaps, though, the leaders of the movement, with speculation in their souls, have bought them all up, desirous of resuming the high harvest

accruing from their speedy redemption. Or it may be that a sufficient amount of the "needful" is in the Fenian coffers to obviate the necessity for their issue at all. If this latter be the case we heartily congratulate the F. B. on the pithy state of their treasury; but if the former, the public has been done an injustice which is deserving of the most condign punishment. Let us burst in ignorance no longer. Pray tell us what has become of the bonds!

The History of the War—General Grant's Report.

General Grant writes as he fights. The difference between his report and the other reports that have recently been laid before the public is as broad and clear as between his battles and the battles of any of the generals who preceded him in the command of our armies. He is equally uncompromising in the field and on paper. He goes straight to the point. He states the particulars of a battle in half a dozen sentences that leave us nothing to desire. He tells the truth fearlessly and openly. He praises with most generous freedom all whose actions he can approve; but if any unlucky delinquent comes in the way of his curt, brusque narrative, so much the worse for that delinquent. He has, in short, in his report added to military literature a document that is impressed through and through with the qualities of his own mind—that is, bold, free, simple, incisive, and direct in the extreme—a document that is as superior to all other mere formal official reports as his achievements were to everything else in our military history.

Grant's report shows how magnificently the drama of war will go ahead when all its parts are under the direction of a master mind, and when the purpose is to carry on war in real earnest and annihilate the armed force of the enemy. It quite involuntarily puts in the broadest and clearest light the distinction between the conduct of the war in the year when Grant was Lieutenant General and directed all our operations, and the way in which it was conducted in the years before he rose to that high position. The country remembers very well how we blundered on through all those early years; how our operations languished until it often seemed that the result would be against us by default; how often our generals marched up hill only to march down again. But in this report it is called to mind again how different the style was in Grant's year; with what directness and purpose everything went forward; how promptly blow followed blow, and how grand was the progress of events from his starting point at Chattanooga to the final scenes when the history of the war became "the record of the successive surrenders" of rebel generals. "From the first," says the hero, "I was firm in the conviction that no peace could be had that would be stable and conducive to the happiness of the people, both North and South, until the military power of the rebellion was entirely broken." That was the key note. It was waste of time to parley, utterly useless to stand with folded hands and wait to see if maybe some one could not patch up the quarrel. There was nothing to do but to fight—fight—fight—to "hammer continuously," to pound away until the enemy should be so exhausted by the power we could array against him that he should not have the strength to raise a hand against the government. With what wonderful persistency and effect Grant carried on the war in this way his report tells, and no other historian will ever equal the force, lucidity and point with which he tells it.

Some of the best parts of the report are its references to other generals, and we see their exact value given at once to the good and the bad, as if they were weighed in the very scales of justice.

Grant's references to Butler put that doughty personage before the country in the proper light for the first time. They show how a practical, sincere man regards such an empty, blatant pretender, and justly hold him up to contempt. Butler was instructed from the first in the campaign against Richmond that that city was his objective point, and that he was to co-operate with the Army of the Potomac, and to seize or invest the rebel capital while Meade engaged Lee on the Rapidan. The plan was perfect, and no person with less ingenuity than Butler would have found it possible to spoil it. Butler, however, managed wonderfully not to do what was requisite. He was shown that Richmond could not be reinforced from the south or from Lee's army, and was at his mercy; but instead of seizing it he sat down at Bermuda Hundred and wrote despatches and "suffered the enemy to as completely shut him off from further operations against Richmond as if he had been in a bottle strongly corked." Such is Grant's contemptuous disposal of Butler's co-operation against the rebel capital. Subsequently, when Grant was crossing the James, the enemy left the road from Richmond to Petersburg on Butler's front undefended, and Butler seized it. Grant, seeing the advantage, sent the Sixth corps to enable Butler to hold what he had taken, and Butler kept the Sixth corps in idleness, while the enemy recaptured the road. Nothing but Butler's Fort Fisher failure could have put a climax to these achievements. Grant shows how the order for Weitzel to act against Wilmington was smothered by Butler; how Butler went where he was not sent and came away when there was no reason; and then how Terry, with nearly the same force, accomplished what Butler had declared impossible. As the sequel to this Grant merely says:—"At my request Major General B. F. Butler was relieved, and Major General E. O. Ord assigned to the command of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina." Butler in this report and Butler before the Committee on the Conduct of the War—or making speeches at Lowell—are very different persons.

As a contrast to Grant's picture of Butler we may put his picture of Sheridan. This soldier was always doing exactly what was wanted, at exactly the right time and in the nearest possible way. When he commanded in the Shenandoah valley and Early lay in his front, Grant, seeing the danger to us of a defeat there, feared to order battle without an exact knowledge of the position. He started, therefore, to see it with his own eyes. He met Sheridan, however, at Charleston; and he pointed out so distinctly how each army lay; but he could do the moment he was authorized, and expressed such confidence of success, that there were but two words of instruction necessary—"Go in!" The victory at Appomattox was the result. Butler had to be hedged round

and bolstered up with page on page of minute instruction, and even then could always find a reason why he should not do the thing he ought. For Sheridan two words were enough, and the victory came. Grant tells plainly that he did not like Thomas' delay to strike Hood as soon as the latter reached Nashville; yet he adds, with a grand sense of justice, "His final defeat of Hood was so complete that it will be accepted as a vindication of that distinguished officer's judgment." But he intimates an opinion that Hood's back was weakened before he got to Nashville. Speaking of the battle at Franklin he says:—"This was the first serious opposition the enemy met with, and I am satisfied was the fatal blow to all his expectations." Of Hood's movement past Sherman's right to Nashville—that grand piece of strategy conceived by Davis—we have the simple declaration, "Had I had the power to command both armies, I should not have changed the orders under which Hood seemed to be acting." As Frederick the Great forgave his enemies the lies they told on account of the blunder they committed, so Grant could easily tolerate all Davis' speeches for the sake of that magnificent piece of noted stupidity.

Grant declares that the history of Sherman's flank movements from Chattanooga to Atlanta "will ever be read with an interest unsurpassed by anything in history." The particulars of the growth of that great campaign in the two minds are marked down with the modesty of a nature too noble to claim the title of what belongs to another. Fair tribute is paid to Meade also, whose "commanding always in the presence of an officer superior to him in rank has drawn from him much of that public attention that his zeal and ability entitle him to, and which he would otherwise have received." But undoubtedly the best of all Grant's declarations is that in relation to the qualities of the soldiers—"It has been my fortune to see the armies of both the West and the East fight battles, and from what I have seen I know there is no difference in their fighting qualities. All that it was possible for men to do in battle they have done. The Western armies commenced their battles in the Mississippi valley and received the final surrender of the remnant of the principal army opposed to them in North Carolina. The armies of the East commenced their battles on the river from which the Army of the Potomac derived its name and received the final surrender of their old antagonist at Appomattox Court House, Virginia. The splendid achievements of each have nationalized our victories."

This splendid recognition of the qualities of our soldiers closes a document that has no equal either for the grand events of which it treats or for the admirable, generous, just and manly spirit in which it tells its story.

The News from Europe—English Troubles at Home and Abroad.

Earl Russell's reconstructed Cabinet appear by the latest European advices to be having anything but an easy time of it. The Fenians at home and complications abroad are leading them a somewhat uncomfortable life. Notwithstanding the fact that Fenianism in Ireland has been repeatedly reported as completely crushed, this hydra-headed Brotherhood persists in cropping up in all directions, and the latest precautions taken by the British government in the garrisoning of Pigeon House Fort, Dublin, show that serious trouble is still anticipated.

Pigeon House Fort commands the city and bay of Dublin, and it has historical associations which will give the action of the government great significance in the eyes of the Irish nation. In 1848 the guns were double shot, and the garrison kept under arms all night, just as in the present instance. Then, as now, it was against the Irish people themselves that these precautions were directed. Daniel O'Connell and his repealers were the dreaded foe in 1848; President O'Mahony and his Fenians in 1865. The mere appearance of three large steamers in the offing of Dublin Bay sufficed to convince the commander of Fort Pigeon House that the long expected Fenian privateers had arrived at last. So, in hot haste he posted off to the Lord Lieutenant and declared that unless reinforcements were sent to him he would not be answerable for the safety of the city. Accordingly the garrison was increased, the guns loaded, and every preparation made for an immediate engagement with the enemy. How far this new scare of the Dublin government is justified by facts the Fenian Congress in secret session could probably tell us. But it is at least clear that the ghost of the Alabama is haunting the British government, and their trepidation will probably not be diminished when they receive President Johnson's Message. To add still further to their anxiety comes the escape of Stephens, the mysterious Head Centre, from the dungeon in which the authorities fondly hoped they had securely bound him. It is scarcely possible that the prisoner could have effected his release without the connivance of his jailers, and if Fenianism has spread into the ranks of the very minions of the law no further fact is required to show that the ramifications of the Brotherhood in Ireland are both extensive and mysterious.

The action of the Spanish government in Chile is another source of embarrassment to the government. In the abstract, John Bull cares little who is right and who is wrong in this dispute. It is from no romantic intention of protecting the weak against the strong that the merchants of Liverpool are clamoring for English intervention against Spain. But their pockets have been touched severely by the blockade of the Chilean ports, and consequently their indignation is loud against Spanish aggression. Earl Russell has promptly replied to their entreaties by despatching one of his characteristic menacing despatches to the Spanish government, and apparently has placed himself in such a position that either he must submit to a snub from the Spanish government or enter upon an inconvenient and inglorious war. Under ordinary circumstances, perhaps, Lord Russell would take the snubbing and sneak out of the discussion, as he did with Russia in the Danish war. But he has the reputation of his government to make; he aspires to wear Lord Palmerston's mantle, and must, therefore, show a bold front. He will be the better able to do this as his adversary is very small and a powerful ally in the person of the Emperor Napoleon is ready to assist him.

THE NEGRO IN CONGRESS.—Mr. Foot, of Vermont, presented in the Senate the other day a resolution from the Legislature of his State in favor of giving equal rights to all men in the